



## City News

*The next Regular  
City Council meeting*

*is 7 p.m.,  
Tues., October 11th at the  
N.C. Senior Center  
400 South Street*

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*Fall Leaf Pick up  
beginning in October,  
see back of newsletter for  
more information  
on leaf pick up.*

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*Public Works Starting  
Fall Hours  
on September 19th  
7a.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

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*Property Taxes Deadline  
Friday, September 30th*

# The New Castle Crier

*The Official Newsletter of New Castle City*

Volume 16 Issue 10 \* New Castle, DE \* October 2022

**MSC :**  
**Electric**  
**Rate Increase**  
See Back for details.



## City News and Events City Property Tax Reminder Payment Deadline Friday, September 30th

City property tax payments are due in the City office at 220 Delaware Street by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, September 30th.

Any unpaid balance is subject to a 6% penalty as of October 1st, with an additional 1.5% per month accrued on all unpaid taxes.

**AVOID PENALTIES  
POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AS  
DATE OF PAYMENT.**

**Payments received after the due  
date will be assessed late fees.**

If you recently paid off your mortgage and the taxes were escrowed please call the City office at 302-322-9801 if you have any questions regarding your property tax status for this year.



## The 10th Annual River Towns Ride & Festival Saturday, October 1st

The 10th annual River Towns Ride & Festival provides riders the opportunity to visit the historic riverfronts of New Castle, Delaware City and Wilmington while earning medals based on distance completed.

Start at your leisure, you choose which town you start in, and you choose your distance 20, 40 or 60 miles. The official Start time is 9 a.m. No medals awarded after 3 p.m. so time your start based on your distance goal.

Post-ride party will be held in Historic New Castle's Battery Park featuring live music, beer, food and non-alcoholic beverages.

Go to [www.rivertownsfestival.com](http://www.rivertownsfestival.com) for more details and to sign up to ride or volunteer.

## September/October Events

**Saturday, September 24th, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Art on the Green in Battery Park** More than 200 vendors, hosted by the NCH Lions Club. For more information go to [www.artonthegreende.net](http://www.artonthegreende.net).

**Saturday, September 24th, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Belgian Beer Fest** This is a new event this year. Hosted by the NCCP. Tickets are available at [www.historicnewcastle.com](http://www.historicnewcastle.com).

**Friday, September 24th - 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Fourth Friday Downtown Art Loop**

Check out our galleries, shops & restaurants.

**Saturday, September 30th, 12 p.m.**

**"Well Seasoned Heirlooms: History and Hardtack at Cooches Bridge"** Webinar by Kim Fritch. Register on New Castle Court House Facebook.



**Saturday, October 1st, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Rivertown Ride & Festival:** The 10th annual River Towns Ride & Festival. Post-ride party will be held in Historic New Castle's Battery Park featuring live music, beer, food and non-alcoholic beverages. More info above.

[www.rivertownsfestival.com](http://www.rivertownsfestival.com)

**Fridays & Saturdays October 7th - 29th**

**7:00, 7:30 & 8:30 p.m. each night**

**Hauntings in History Walking Tours**

Discover the darker side of New Castle's past with our annual October walking tours that explore the legends, lore and spirits that haunt this history city.

**Wednesday, October 12th - 6:30 p.m.**

**"Hollywood History"** Screening of the film, *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* with Johnny Depp. Short presentation by Cindy Snyder on author Washington Irving and his Delaware book illustrator, Felix Darley. New Castle Court House Museum.

**Saturday, October 15th, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**New Castle Senior Center Harvest Bazaar**

Featuring homemade baked goods, handmade crafts, sewing/craft supplies, new & gently used items, books, breakfast/lunch foods (to-go), raffles and more! Free admission

**Saturday, October 29th - 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**William Penn Day**

Celebrating the 340<sup>th</sup> anniversary of William Penn's landing in New Castle. 1:00 p.m. - Gulielma Penn's Recipes and Cookery, 3:00- English Tea with Hannah Penn, 5:00- Music in the Time of William Penn- Performance by the Music School of DE.

*New Castle – The First Capital of the First State!*

The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast

## REMINDER OF TRUSTEE ELECTION



The Trustees of the New Castle Common are holding an election to fill a vacancy on the Board.

Voting will be available at the Town Hall Building, 201 Delaware Street, on:

October 3rd, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

October 4th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

October 5th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

October 6th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

October 7th, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

October 8th, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Bring your driver's license or other form of ID. If you're not already registered to vote in Trustee elections, you can register and vote at the same time.

For anyone unable to vote in person, you can request a mail-in ballot by calling 302-322-2809. Requests will be accepted until 3 p.m. on September 29th.

Mail-in ballots must be notarized and must be received by the Trustees no later than 12 p.m. on October 8th, either through the mail or by drop-off.

If mailing your ballot back to the Trustees, be sure to allow enough time to make this deadline.

**There are two candidates:**  
**Francis DeAscanis and Karen Igou**

### Code Enforcement Corner

#### **Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycle**

The City Code Enforcement Department helps to maintain and improve the quality of life of New Castle City residents by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City zoning, property maintenance and building codes. Complaint forms are available on the City website at [newcastlecity.delaware.gov](http://newcastlecity.delaware.gov) or in the City offices; you can also call the Code Officer at 322-9801.



#### **PUBLIC WORKS STARTING FALL HOURS ON SEPTEMBER 19TH: 7A.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

Place trash, yard waste and recycle at the curb the night before your scheduled pick-up day, this will insure your items will be picked up. **Removal of Trash Containers:** All containers must be removed from the sidewalk or roadway and stored on the same day that they are picked up.

Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycle guidelines can be found at [newcastlecity.delaware.gov/public-works](http://newcastlecity.delaware.gov/public-works).



## MSC ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE

**Municipal Services Commission**  
customers will experience an  
increase in their electric rates in  
**September of 2022.**

This rate increase is due to the federal government requiring the Indian River Power Plant Unit 4 to remain operational. This unit is the last remaining coal fired unit at this facility.

As our nation moves toward clean energy, the cost to keep a coal fired power generator in service continues to escalate. The owners of this facility filed a motion to close the unit. Closing this facility causes electric reliability concerns for the entire state of Delaware which could result in black outs. Federal regulators are allowing the Indian River Power Plant to recoup their operating expenses by passing those costs on to electric rate payers throughout the state.

Our Utility was given a 6.5% increase in wholesale electric rates which is directly attributable to the Indian River Power Plant operations. **The Municipal Services Commission has no control over this increase and it came with very short notice.**

This equates to a 2.2% average increase in electric rates for MSC customers. The MSC currently has the lowest residential electric rates in the state of Delaware which are 3.3% lower than the next lowest provider. It is projected that the impact to the average residential customer would be \$3.00 per month or \$36.00 per year.

Current projections are that this rate increase will remain in effect for 4 years to allow time for additional transmission grid infrastructure to be constructed. This will help to mitigate reliability concerns, potential blackouts, and the eventual closure of this coal burning plant.

### LEAF COLLECTION & YARD WASTE: Leaf collection



starts in October with the first falling leaves, and continues as long as needed. Rake only leaves to the curb (not into the street) and they will be collected throughout the week as teams are available. **Mulched leaves, grass**

**clippings and branches cannot be picked up by the leaf vacuum truck, leave these items out for Wednesday yard waste pick-up.**

**Yard waste** including branches, tree trimmings, sticks, grass clippings are collected on Wednesdays. Items should be placed loose into containers or yard waste bags or tied in bundles not exceeding 50 pounds in weight or four feet in length.